

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 184135 TOSEC 190119

41

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 CCO-00 ISO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY S/S-O:JHOGANSON

APPROVED BY S/S-O:JHOGANSON

----- 006945

P 241232Z JUL 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 184135 TOSEC 190119

FOLLOWING REPEATS ROME 11960 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BONN LONDON
PARIS TOKYO DIA NATO USCINCEUR MILAN NAPLES USDOCOSOUTH
SHAPEUSNR 24 JUL 76

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 11960

USDOCOSOUTH FOR INTAF
SHAPEUSNR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, IT
SUBJECT: ITALIAN POLITICAL CRISIS

REF: ROME 11852

1. PROSPECTS FOR A PROMPT AND FAVORABLE RESOLUTION
OF THE POLITICAL CRISIS DIMMED YESTERDAY. THE PRI AND
PSDI ANNOUNCED, AFTER MEETINGS OF THEIR DIRECTORATES,
THAT THEY WOULD NOT DO MORE THAN ABSTAIN IN A VOTE OF
CONFIDENCE ON ADREOTTI'S PROPOSED GOVERNMENT. PERSONAL
APPEALS FOR A FAVORABLE VOTE BY ZACAGNINI DID NOT
PRODUCE ANY CHANGE IN THESE POSITIONS. AFTER A MEETING
OF THE SOCIALIST DIRECTORATE, IN WHICH CRAXI WAS
REPORTEDLY ATTACKED BY THE PSI LEFT AND SOME
DE MARTINO SUPPORTERS FOR CONSIDERING ANYTHING OTHER
THAN FIRM OPPOSITION TO THE ANDREOTTI GOVERNMENT,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 184135 TOSEC 190119

CRAXI MET WITH ZACCAGNINI AND URGED THE DC TO ASK FOR

THE ABSTENTION OF THE PCI. THIS WAS PUT IN TERMS OF THE ESTABLISHED (PRE-CRAXI) PSI POLICY OF SEEKING THE INVOLVEMENT OF ALL PARTIES OF THE "CONSTITUTIONAL ARC" TO RESOLVE THE COUNTRY'S URGENT PROBLEMS. THE PCI REMAINS NONCOMMITTAL AND HAS ANNOUNCED THAT ITS POSITION WILL BE MADE KNOWN IN PARLIAMENT. DESPITE THESE DISAPPOINTMENTS, ANDREOTTI IS REPORTEDLY STILL DETERMINED TO PRESENT HIS GOVERNMENT AND ITS PROGRAM TO PARLIAMENT AND FORCE THE OTHERS TO STAND UP AND BE COUNTED IN A CONFIDENCE VOTE.

2. COMMENT: THE DC'S DILEMMA IS THAT, IF THE PSI, PSDI, AND PRI ALL ABSTAIN, IT COULD NOT GAIN A MAJORITY IN THE CHAMBER WITHOUT THE ABSTENTION OR AFFIRMATIVE VOTES OF THE PCI OR MSI. IN THE CHAMBER THE DC PLUS THE SVP (3 SEATS) HAS 265 SEATS; THE EXTREME LEFT (PCI, PR, AND DEM PROL) PLUS THE EXTREME RIGHT HAVE 274 SEATS. THUS THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF AT LEAST ONE OF THE PSI, PSDI, OR PRI IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE FORMATION OF AN ACCEPTABLE GOVERNMENT BY ABSTENTION; THE ANDREOTTI GOVERNMENT COULD WIN APPROVAL WITH THOSE THREE PARTIES ABSTAINING ONLY BY THE ABSTENTION OF AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF THE PCI OR MSI WHICH, SINCE THEY WOULD BE DETERMINATIVE, WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE.

3. WHILE THERE IS NO PUBLIC SIGN OF IT, THERE MAY BE A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF GAMESMANSHIP IN THE POSITIONS TAKEN BY THE PSI, PSDI, AND PRI. IN ANY EVENT, IF ANDREOTTI PRESENTS HIS GOVERNMENT TO THE PARLIAMENT WITHOUT A PRECONSTITUTED MAJORITY, THE ISSUE WILL BE FORCED AND ANDREOTTI MAY BE COUNTING ON THE FACT THAT THE ONLY POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE (GIVEN DC REJECTION OF AN ALL PARTY GOVERNMENT) WOULD BE A GOVERNMENT OF THE LEFT (PCI PLUS LAY PARTIES) DOMINATED BY THE PCI. THE WEEKEND WILL GIVE ALL CONCERNED TIME FOR FURTHER REFLECTION AND NEGOTIATION. VOLPE
UNQUOTE ROBINSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, POLITICAL STABILITY, POLITICAL SITUATION, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE184135
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:JHOGANSON
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760286-0131
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760724/aaaaausb.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ROME 11852
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 APR 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <23 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ITALIAN POLITICAL CRISIS
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, IT
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006